

Shayne R. Gallo, Mayor

City of Kingston

Swearing In Ceremony

January 1 2012

NEW BEGINNINGS.....

Happy New Year! I would like to thank all of you for attending today's swearing-in ceremony. Thank you to all the clergy, elected officials, judges here today. Thank you to the press for covering this event.

I would like to especially thank my mother, Nancy, son Evan and all my family and friends as I could never have achieved this great honor and privilege of being elected the 33rd Mayor of our great City.

I feel particularly blessed and humble because my Father Robert, served as a councilperson and alderman-at-large, and Brother TR, also served on the City Council and was sworn in as Mayor in this historical beautiful chamber.

Our City is one of the most unique municipalities in the state, as evidenced by a diverse population, architecture, beautiful waterfront with deep water port, historical heritage, a thriving and ever-evolving arts community and venue for competitive sports and recreational activities on land and the Hudson River. We have it all...people, places and things to do!!!

The uniqueness of Kingston gives us all a sense of pride and place. We have all earned and deserve the pride we have for our City.

During the campaign and at the post-election listening sessions, I became re-acquainted with the pride, passion and hope all of you have for Kingston. Our City is alive with pride!!

Our City is at a crossroad. It is an honor to be Mayor at this time to confront the challenges and more importantly, opportunities we shall face together.

Therefore, it is imperative we foster a partnership from the diversity of our City, be it from the seniors, clergy, residents, businesses

and professionals, not-for-profits, citizen action groups, volunteers, the arts-media-digital Kingston and our dedicated public employees, all of whom contribute something vital to Kingston.

This partnership is inclusive and is essential for maximizing the opportunities for our City's overall health and future.

This partnership is necessary for addressing the quality of life concerns many of you have expressed to me over the past several months. As I have stated, we must work together to deal with your concerns.

This partnership insures a government of transparency, accountability and reform.

This partnership is crucial for the continued development of downtown-the waterfront, uptown historical district and revitalization of the midtown arts-digital-business corridor. Our City has tremendous opportunity and potential for development of each of these districts which actually I refer to as *diverse neighborhoods*.

This partnership is about bridging the gap between old Kingston and new Kingston so we may all **seize** the opportunities before us.

Simply put, this partnership continuously exchanges information, ideas and listens to one another to secure Kingston's future.

Again, Happy New Year!! God bless. Thank you for attending and giving me the opportunity to be your Mayor and foster a partnership for a
NEW BEGINNING FOR KINGSTON!
